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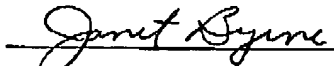
January 30, 2007

**TO:** Examiner Apple  
**COMPANY:** U.S. Patent and Trademark Office – Art Unit 3693  
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**FROM:** Rudolph P. Hofmann  
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**RE:** U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/704,838  
Our File No. 60021-375901

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